

Vermont Council on Culture and Innovation

...Advancing Vermont's Creative Economy

Survey, Fall 2003

The Vermont Council on Culture and Innovation is examining the relationship between Vermont's cultural life, community development, and economic activity. For VCCI, culture is a broad term that includes activities in the arts, humanities, historic preservation, folklife, history, and other related subjects.

Your comments will help VCCI explore how these relationships currently work in Vermont and identify ways that government, business, and the nonprofit sector can create new partnerships to increase economic activity in our state. By the summer of 2004, a practical and strategic plan will be delivered to the Governor, the Legislature and Congressional delegation, leaders of Vermont businesses, and key organizations.

Return this form in the box by the exit, or mail it to VCCI Survey, PO Box 1384, Montpelier, VT 05601 by December 1, 2003.

For further info about VCCI, visit www.creative-economy.org/cne/vt.html

Responses to any or all questions are welcome.

What is your zip code? _____

Check the categories that most closely describe you

Your work: Government employee Nonprofit organization Teacher Retiree Business

Business size over 50 employees 10 – 50 employees under 10 employees

I am: owner/executive director employee

I volunteer for: a cultural/heritage organization on the board of directors

Student: k-12 college graduate school

Are you an: Artist, writer, craftsperson, ...? full-time part-time

Other: _____

What are the most important elements for you in determining a community's overall quality of life? (Rank each item 1-5, with 1 being highest)

___ *Built environment* (vibrant commercial district, landmark buildings, residential neighborhoods, public spaces, pedestrian-friendly)

___ *Cultural environment* (varied cultural offerings including performing and visual arts, library discussion groups, lectures, community festivals, etc.)

___ *Economic environment* (employment rate, types of jobs, housing costs)

___ *Educational environment* (good quality public schools, opportunities for adult learning)

___ *Health environment* (proximity to, variety and availability of medical care, clean water)

- ___ *Infrastructure* (public transportation, road maintenance, water and sewage systems)
 - ___ *Physical environment* (natural surroundings, recreational opportunities)
 - ___ *Public safety* (crime rates, fire and police protection)
 - ___ *Social environment* (economic and ethnic diversity, equity, active civic life)
 - ___ *Other* (what?) _____
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Please number your comments so we know which question they refer to. Feel free to answer on this or a separate sheet of paper.

1. How and where do culture and business interact in your community?
2. Is there a direct connection between your work and the cultural life of Vermont?
3. Are there existing policies that either encourage or discourage innovative ideas or your creative efforts? How?
4. Do you feel your schools (including after school programs) are providing an adequate basis in local history and culture and exposure to arts and creativity?
5. What results have you seen from any investments the state has made in the cultural life of your community?
6. What role do you see for culture and innovative business ideas in your community's future?
7. What are some ways you think the state or federal government, non-profits or businesses can help achieve that future?
8. Do you know of any reports or studies we should be sure to look at in our research?
9. Any other comments?